Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—

I. (1) The interest of the Government is that of a shareholder as well as of a secured creditor.

(2) The main reason of its present condition is shortage of funds for the working of the factory by the Company owning it.

(3) The Director of Public Instruction, one of the Official Directors of the Company and Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, has been asked to suggest means for its working by leasing it or otherwise, though the fact remains that it is primarily the Company's look-out to work the Factory.

(4) The question does not arise in view of answer to (3) above.

II. Yes, the Factory was got examined at the Company's cost and Government will not be justified in publishing the report independently.

III. None.

IV. (a). Shares Rs. 1,20,000.

Loans Rs. 1,21,755-0-9.

(b) Vide answer to I (3).

V. Mr. K. Raghava Kurup, General Manager of the Company, is in charge of the Tanneries and the Government understands that he has taken steps to resume work in the Factory.

42. Dr. A. G. Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) when did the Government receive the Expert report on the working of the Cochin Tanneries, Ltd.;

(b) whether any orders have been passed on it; if so, when;

(c) will the Government be pleased to place the report and connected papers on the Table;

(d) what steps the Government have taken to recover the loans paid to the Tanneries for the past 2 years?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.— (a) In May 1925.

(b) No specific orders have been passed. Vide also answer to Part I (3) of question No. 41.

(c) & (d). Vide answer to question No. 41.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, in (d) "What steps the Government have taken to recover the loans paid to the Tanneries for the past 2 years", I am asked to refer to the answer to question No. 41. The answer is not there as far as I can understand. Which portion of it, please? To which part of the question

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does the answer refer? My question is 'what steps have been taken'.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—41 (3).

Dr. A. G. Menon.—There is not my answer there. My question was 'what steps the Government have taken to recover the loans paid to the Tanneries for the past 2 years'. The other is the means. It does not form an answer to my question.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That is the means the Government have taken. The Government have taken action, and then there is the Company's look-out.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I only ask about the working. What steps have been taken to recover the sum given to the Tanneries in the last two years?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The President has been asked to suggest means for its working by leasing it or otherwise.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—It is not an answer to my question. My question is whether the Government have taken any steps; if so, what. It is a plain question. If you have taken any steps, say so. If not, say Government have not taken any steps. That is the reply I want.

Deputy President.—No steps have been taken.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Am I to understand that no steps have been taken to recover the Government loans? I am satisfied. That would have been the best answer from the very beginning.

43. **Mr. A. B. Salem.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what amount of money stands invested in the Cochin Tanneries, Ltd., by Government on the first of Karkadagam 1103;

(b) what steps they have taken for the recovery of the amount from the Company;

(c) what proposals they have either for the working of the Company in future or liquidating the same;

(d) will the Government be pleased to state the names of the present Directors of the Company including those of the Government Directors?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—(a), (b) and (c). Vide answer to question No. 41.

(d) The names of the Directors are:—

1. Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon, Chief Engineer.
2. Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai, Director of Public Instruction.
3. Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi, Comptroller of Accounts.
4. Mr. P. Krishna Menon.

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